

have been able to find a happy asylum in what they had been told 161  
their homeland. Concern - v. of a/c 6/9/16 -

The C. M. did not appear to be aware of the practical conditions which prevailed particularly in that part of the country. The proposed reforms were inspired by doctrinaire theories and not dictated by practical problems.

The speaker regretted that the mirasdar had not gathered here in their thousands, as they should, because their very continuance was at stake.

He said that the maximum holding envisaged by the C. M. would be thoroughly uneconomical and no mirasdar could maintain himself and his family on the income derived from it. Agriculture was as much a profession as any other, and must be paying for those who had earned money in other walks of life and saved the capital necessary to invest on land, were in a position to increase the productivity of the land.

He said that in the matter of fixation of fair rents regard must be had to existing facts. Fixing them at an arbitrary level of 45% was thoroughly unfair and the penalty proposed for transgression was absurd. Here the M. Govt. trying to steal the thunder from the Communists. He suggested that Govt. should first concentrate on reclaiming waste lands and bringing them under cultivation and on settling the landless labourers. He hoped that at least in this instance, Govt. would respond to popular demand and drop the so-called reforms.

Rural economy would be ruined if such schemes were given effect to.

He pointed out that the middle class mirasdar formed the backbone of agriculture in this part of the country. His economic position must first be examined before any reforms were pushed through. Today this class was heavily indebted. Steps must be taken to wipe out this indebtedness. A depression in land value would hit this class most.

He criticised the maximum unit of cultivation proposed by the C. M. (the Rs 250 limit area). He said that the fixation of 10 to 15 mas of lands as the maximum lease for an individual tenant, was unfair. Leaving to a tenant depended on trust and the mirasdar could not be forced to distribute the lands to the tenants in the village irrespective of their business interests.

If the Congress was out to adopt the Communist doctrine on property, why should the Congress be supported in preference to Communists? The C. M. should stand or fall by its own ideals.

He said that the middle-class mirasdar - those paying between Rs 250 and Rs 1000 in kist - were heavily in debt. The prevailing higher prices of paddy had not benefited this class. Since the proposed reforms would help neither the tenant nor the landlord, the reforms ought to be rejected in toto. The mirasdar must be alive to their own interests and choose the best candidates in the forthcoming elections.

He said that it was admitted on all hands that there was a first-class food crisis in the country. There was nothing in the report which would help to solve this crisis. Far from doing it, the contemplated reforms would definitely hamper production. If the reforms were effected, the intelligent section of the people dependent on land would be forced to leave it. Today the condition of agriculture